

Regular Session, 2005

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 94

BY SENATOR B. GAUTREAUX

CONDOLENCES. Expresses the condolences of the Senate upon the death of First Sergeant Michael J. Bordelon.

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the family of United States Army First Sergeant Michael J. Bordelon upon his death from wounds suffered in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

WHEREAS, it is with the deepest regret and most profound sorrow that the Senate has learned of the tragic death of First Sergeant Michael J. Bordelon as a result of combat operations in Southwest Asia; and

WHEREAS, First Sergeant Bordelon was a native of St. Mary Parish and a 1986 graduate of Patterson High School where his exceptional athletic abilities and skills led to his being named an All-District player on the Lumberjack football team; and

WHEREAS, First Sergeant Bordelon enlisted in the United States Army National Guard after high school, feeling strongly that service to his country was a true honor and he served with distinction before deciding to enter the regular Army as a full-time soldier in 1990, only days before Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait and the first Gulf War became inevitable; and

WHEREAS, First Sergeant Bordelon was soon deployed to Southwest Asia where he served bravely and honorably during Operation Desert Storm, and used his dedication, extensive military experiences, and outstanding leadership talents to bring his men safely

1 through the chaos and confusion of battle; and

2 WHEREAS, First Sergeant Bordelon always led from the front, served as an
3 inspiration to his men, and performed his duties in an exemplary manner, which allowed him
4 to rise up through the ranks and ultimately achieve one of the highest enlisted ranks possible
5 in the Army, First Sergeant, E-8; and

6 WHEREAS, while First Sergeant Bordelon loved his wife, Mila, and his three
7 children, Mike Jr., Jacob, and Johanna, and missed them dearly during his second tour of
8 duty in the Iraqi Theater of Operations, his love for his country was a great comfort to him
9 as he dedicated himself totally to his mission and his men, always placing them above his
10 own interests and displaying a leader's constant concern for the safe return home of his
11 troops; and

12 WHEREAS, First Sergeant Bordelon was 37 years old when he and his men from
13 Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, were given the
14 mission of providing mounted security for an Iraqi Army convoy near Mosul in northern Iraq
15 on April 23, 2005; and

16 WHEREAS, First Sergeant Bordelon and his men were attacked by terrorist forces
17 using a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device to destroy his Stryker Combat Vehicle
18 and grievously wound First Sergeant Bordelon and two of his men in the course of the
19 assault on the convoy; and

20 WHEREAS, despite his wounds, First Sergeant Bordelon made sure his wounded
21 soldiers were out of the burning vehicle before allowing his medical treatment and
22 evacuation from the battlefield; and

23 WHEREAS, First Sergeant Bordelon's wounds were so severe that despite every
24 effort by medical specialists in Germany and later at The Brook Medical Center in San
25 Antonio, Texas, his recovery was impossible and he succumbed to his injuries; and

26 WHEREAS, while the loss of First Sergeant Bordelon was nearly unbearable to his
27 family, especially to his wife, Mila, who must now serve as mother and father to the three
28 children left behind in the wake of this terrible event, he will live on in their memories as a
29 shining example of freedom, liberty, and courage as he takes his place of honor among other
30 heroes in Arlington National Cemetery.

1 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
2 does hereby express a profound sense of loss and sends its heartfelt condolences from a
3 grateful state and nation to the family of United States First Sergeant Michael J. Bordelon
4 for his service and sacrifice for this nation.

5 THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be
6 transmitted to First Sergeant Bordelon's wife, Mila, and his mother and father, Dolores and
7 Bruce Bordelon, and his sister, Doreen Scioneaux.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Heyward Jeffers.

DIGEST

Expresses condolences upon the death of U.S. Army First Sergeant Michael J. Bordelon.